

SECRET

DATE 15 March 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR THE FILE

SUBJECT: AELADLE DEBRIEFING

RE: Viktor LARIONOV

1. AELADLE, a former KGB Staff Officer with limited knowledge of KGB operations in Germany, was asked to review certain files or case summaries in addition to the general and specific questioning previously carried out by German representatives (BfV, ASBW and BND).

2. The attached summary (Att. A) of biographic and background information concerning the Subject of this file, or in which this person is mentioned, was reviewed by AELADLE. AELADLE's comments, if any, are also attached (Att. B), as recorded. If no clearly identifiable comment by AELADLE is attached, he made no comment regarding this individual.

3. In some cases the results of these interviews were sent to the field, and in some cases may have been passed to the German authorities. If so, copies of the appropriate correspondence should be in the file.

4. These interviews were conducted by C/EE/G/CE, using the alias of C/CI/R&A. The interview using true name, was also present at the interviews. The interviews took place on 5, 7 and 8 February 1963.

5. AELADLE was presumably not aware that most of these cases were reviewed on the initiative of CIA officers; he was told that "the Germans" had asked that he review the summaries presented. He appeared to accept this statement. This tactic was necessary because of the relationship between AELADLE and CIA at the time of the interviews. In no case should this bit of deception be revealed to AELADLE or the Germans.

6. Any contemplated action based on this information, or any queries concerning the Subject of this file, should be cleared with C/EE/G/CE, C/SR/CI and DC/CI prior to any action.

C/EE/G/CE

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3028
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2007

15 MARCH
1963

ATT. A

SUBJECT: Sergei Bernhardowitch FROELICH aka
Sergei Borissovitch GRILOV

1. Subject was born on 8 February 1904, in Riga, of parents of German extraction. Prior to 1920 he lived with his family in Moscow, after which they moved to Latvia and became Latvian citizens. He was graduated from the Technical Institute of Riga and was later in charge of a business firm. In June 1940 he became a member of the Latvian anti-Soviet underground. In 1941 Subject and his family fled to Germany where they were declared "Volksdeutsche". In 1942 he joined the SA, because he felt that it was more sympathetically inclined toward the Russian nationalist movement. With the awakening of interest in the so-called "VLASSOV movement" on the part of Hitler and the SS, Subject joined the Waffen-SS in 1944 and was assigned as a liaison officer between the German command and the VLASSOV staff. Subject assisted VLASSOV in arranging the release of Soviet POWs from German POW camps for recruitment in the "ROA". It was at this time that he joined the staff of General ASCHENBRENNER, the Wehrmacht's liaison officer to VLASSOV, and in April 1945 took part in a project of ASCHENBRENNER's to effect the surrender of the VLASSOV force to the Third Army. Subject was taken prisoner while visiting General TRUBIN of the ROA. In 1945 he lived in Ravensburg as a DP. In 1946 he was employed by a construction firm in Munich, "Demeter Neumann". He also worked for the Lindex firm in Munich. His wife and daughter lived (as of 1949) in Lindau.

2. Subject arrived in Munich in 1946 where he obtained a position with Lindex. It was at this time that Subject came into contact with Konstantin KRONIADI, a Russian emigre who was attempting the unification of various Russian emigre groups. Subject came under the influence of KRONIADI and, because of his position with Lindex, he was able to obtain a house at Jensenstrasse 2, which was set up as a center for Russian emigre activities and from which Lindex company leased two rooms in the basement for storeroom space. From the record it appears that during the period 1946 to 1950 Subject apparently worked for four different intelligence groups, i.e. two American intelligence services, the Gehlen organization, and Nikolaus BARANOWSKY.

3. It has been reported that BARANOWSKY, who is frequently characterized as a noted intelligence peddler and fabricator, and Subject became acquainted in 1947 and that Subject started to work for BARANOWSKY at the beginning of 1948. Subject was reportedly head of a CI group directed by BARANOWSKY; however, BARANOWSKY was not satisfied with his work and the connection was broken off in November 1948. Later, Subject started to work for BARANOWSKY once again, this time under different (unknown) conditions, through Viktor LARIONOV, one of BARANOWSKY's close intelligence associates. Subject was reportedly dropped for the second time in November 1950. It is reported that Subject was also dropped by the Gehlen organization in January 1950 as a result of a reorganization within the service. BARANOWSKY was also a semi-autonomous operator under the Gehlen organization and consequently the presumption is that Subject, after being dropped in January 1950, remained in indirect contact with the Gehlen organization through BARANOWSKY until he was released by BARANOWSKY in November 1950.

4. During this same period (1946-1950) Subject worked for one American intelligence service as an interpreter/interrogator, and for a second American service as a source on emigre activities in the Munich area. Also, he was a sub-agent responsible for recruiting agents for dispatch to Poland on intelligence missions, and also support in the form of interrogation of refugees. Subject and Konstantin KROMIADI were reported to be the leading personalities of the MELGUNOV emigre group and to have supplied BARANOWSKY information on the activities of this group.

5. In 1951-1952 Subject began working for the "Blank Office" in the Munich area. Various sources have reported the following information concerning Subject's activities for the "Blank Office":

A. A source reported in 1952 that the "Blank Office" had a Munich office located at Ismaningerstrasse 110-c. The cover of this office was the Institut fuer Erforschung der Gegenwart. Subject served as chief of this particular office. He had one male assistant who was a German about thirty years old. He also had a German secretary, a woman who allegedly doubled as Subject's mistress. One other person in the office was Iu ILJINSKY, who was associated with VLASSOV during the war. He was a former Russian expert on small arms and the author of the basic field manual of the Soviet Army on small arms which presumably is still in use today. This particular branch of the "Blank Office" had a fairly sizeable net of informants whose primary job seemed to be to interview returning prisoners-of-war from the USSR. They also collected various intelligence information and pieces of Soviet military equipment. The material obtained from the various debriefings was collated and the final results were checked with specialists on the Soviet Army, Air Force, and so forth. This particular branch of the "Blank Office" also had a separate office in Berlin. Subject himself travelled fairly often to Berlin and presumably worked with a separate group there.

B. According to one source, Subject's office, in conjunction with other offices, had established a number of rug companies ostensibly engaged in the export and import of rugs between East and West Germany. The main office of this company allegedly was in Stuttgart. Presumably the company served as a cover for intelligence activities.

C. Another source reported that Subject was reportedly a member of the HEINE group in Munich, working for Gerhard SCHACHT of the "Blank Office". Still another source reported that Subject worked for the "Blank Office" and was concerned with intelligence operations into Czechoslovakia and Hungary. It was reported that the "Blank Office" had developed channels through Czechoslovakia extending to Rumania which were perfectly secure in approaching the Soviet Union.

6. Subject reportedly left the "Blank Office" in 1956 to enter private business. It is known that in 1956 he had a small office with a few employees located on Holbeinstrasse in Munich, and was the distributor in Southern Bavaria and Austria for a U. S. automotive product. In 1956 he was still active in Russian emigre circles.

7. Additional background and miscellaneous information:

A. Although Subject was dropped by one of the American services and by the Gehlen organization without prejudice, he was alleged by some to be a professional intelligence promoter whose interests are primarily financial and who produced only duds in the line of operational leads.

B. During World War II Subject was photographed with the following people who were close to VLASSOV: TRUKHIN, MYRANOV, MALISEKIN, and other; Subject wore the uniform of a captain. It was learned from the former editor of the VLASSOV Army Newspaper "Kazantsev (Kato)", that Subject was assigned to the VLASSOV staff by the Germans for the purpose of controlling VLASSOV's activities.

C. Subject was reportedly the Chief of the Munich section of the West German Intelligence Blank Ministry. A part of his work consisted of the collection, from refugees from the Soviet Union and the satellites and from German POWs returning from the Soviet Union, information about the countries, cities and camps known to them. (Date of the information: 1954).

D. Subject is the oldest of three children born to Bernhard FROELICH and his wife Olga SIEBERT. He has one brother who is still missing in Russia and a sister who emigrated with her parents to Australia (circa 1949-1951). The FROELICH family lived in Riga before the World War II. After the war they resided at Schumannstrasse 4 in Munich until they emigrated to Australia. Subject and his family were classified as DP's under the care of IRO. Subject was married on 24 July 1930, in Riga, to Helene WILL, born on 5 December 1905 in Moscow. They have two children: Irene FROELICH, born 23 July 1931 at Riga, and Konstantin FROELICH, born 10 March 1939 at Riga. Subject's wife and children lived at Ravensburg in the French Zone after World War II.

E. Education: Subject attended high school in Riga and the technical school at Koethen from which he received a degree in civil engineering. He speaks Russian, Latvian and German fluently. His English is poor.

F. Postwar employment (other than for intelligence services):

- (1) With the construction firm Demeter NEUMANN at Baudrexelstrasse in Munich from September 1945 until 1947, as an engineer for heating systems.
- (2) From 1 December 1947 he worked for the firm LINDEX GmbH at Schumannstrasse 4 in Munich.

G. Change of Name: The official records in Munich reveal that Subject was first registered under the name ORLOV, born 24 August 1900, in Dvinsk in the Soviet Union. In 1950 Subject submitted the following statement to the Munich police officials: "I was an officer in the VLASSOV Army during the war and American prisoner in 1945. I was released from prison in August or September 1945 and came to Munich where I have resided since under the false name Sergei ORLOV, born 24 August 1900 at Dvinsk, stateless. The only reason for my change of name was because I had been an officer in the VLASSOV Army and I know that the Russians were eager to get hold of every man who fought in that army...."

H. Physical Description: Height: 179 cm; hair: gray; eyes: blue. Subject limps on his right foot. Weight: 82 kg; build: slender.

I. In 1946 Subject was suspected by an American intelligence service of being a non-credited Soviet officer in the U.S. Zone of Germany working for one Captain J. LABANNEAU. This suspicion was never proved and case was dropped.

6. Miscellaneous operational items:

A. Subject was used as a debriefer in 1949-50 by an AIS agent during the development of the Alexander MARTINYAK affair (evidently concerning activities of anti-Soviet partisans on Ukrainian territory), and the Jehan and George SKARDING operation (legal traveller Johan SKARDING attempted to recruit his brother George who was presumably director of the DEWTRA in Rostock Harbor). It was evidently as a result of Subject's poor debriefing technique in these two cases that the AIS first considered dropping Subject as a sub-agent.

B. Subject also brought to AIS attention (in 1949) one Georg DANILOV, described as an engineer and an ex-lieutenant in a Soviet Radio Communications unit. His last assignment was that of mess officer in the 1st Technical AF Division. He escaped from Berlin in the winter of 1948. Subject claimed that DANILOV had a profound knowledge of the organization of the Soviet air force, and furthermore, knew many important Soviet personalities, including Stalin's son.

C. In 1949 Subject requested that he be given a sending and receiving set by the AIS which he could place in the hands of a "reliable" Russian group to try and contact the partisans.

ATT. B

15 MARCH

1963

(MR. Sergey FRANKLICH)

A And first, my comment. I of course not finish. It's mentioned here that Subject in '46 - '50 apparently worked for four different Intelligence groups: two American Intelligence services, OGHREN organisation, and Miklos BARANOWSKI. As I told before in '53 I -

P You came across that name?

A Yes. I read French files in the KGB Archives. There were few files, practically reports of the French Intelligence in which name of BARANOWSKI was, or the activity of this group, or namely maybe the reports of that person, BARANOWSKI. In that way maybe it can help the French to find. Evidently with that group BARANOWSKI worked for French.

P Worked for French?

A Yes. And my opinion is that all these reports of this group were received through KGB agent in French Intelligence by the KGB. It's also interesting it's name LARIONOV who worked for BARANOWSKI and was one of BARANOWSKI's close Intelligence associates. If I am not mistaken, LARIONOV was the person, emigrant, who lived in Western Germany and with whom Soviet agent

- 16 -

SECRET

A - AELADLE (SOURCE)

GER-3 cont'd
7 Feb '63

in Finland, whose real name PUSCHKARIOV, but now he changed that name, - he's known to the Finnish Department, Section - and that agent PUSCHKARIOV he worked at that time till '61 in the Finnish Police. He was a Finnish Police officer. As I recall that agent, PUSCHKARIOV, had correspondence with LARIONOV. Practically LARIONOV was not recruited but they hoped that maybe during such correspondence they could study LARIONOV. But it could be just an evidence against PUSCHKARIOV who later was dismissed but he was not arrested in Finland. It seems to me it's necessary to check whether LARIONOV had correspondence with him. It seems to be that man. For dispatch - what you mean?

P To send. To dispatch agents; to send agents.

(Machine off)

A (FROELICH) When we discussed that case with Germans they at that time have not given me all this information. I mean exact background as they did now, or you did. In that way it's clear, of course, that evidently he would not fit the case which I described about the Intelligence officer who came to the Soviets in 1955 from HLARK, evidently not. Because, according to my knowledge, that person gave them information about agents in the Ukraine and especially in Dnepropetrovsk it seems to be. Here is no such background. In that way evidently somebody else gave it. But in general, the background of FROELICH can fit those cases which I described previously in view that the emigrant from Latvia, who lived till '41 in Latvia, was recruited by KGB and later escaped, and whom they recruited later, in '55 or '56 by sending his relative or so on the basis

OSR-3 cont'd
7 Feb '63

SECRET

of his written agreement to cooperate in '41. It was blackmail. In that way he of course can be considered as a possibility with others whom I described as possible. I mean WAGNER and that group. Then the second point is, of course, that he also - you can't exclude such opportunity that he was one time the head of small section. In that way he can fit the case in which one such person with such position was recruited in Germany on the basis of something. I don't recall now. Previously I gave more it seems to be, more exact information. Or he could also fit the case when one ex-American or GERMAN resident was recruited in Austria, though it was more in Austria, when the Americans or GERMAN left after active using and whom the KGB tried to use. There was such case though I am not sure of course, but in that way it gives such opportunity. The last point is that it's mentioned here that he was used as a debriefer in 1949 - '50 by an American agent during the development of Alexander MARTINIUK Affair. Evidently concerning activity of anti-Soviet partisans on Ukrainian territory. That case I remember, of course. I read that case. MARTINIUK was, it seems to be it was he, was arrested by KGB in Hungary or in Vienna in 1949 or '50 as an American agent. He was interrogated. He something told about his mission, was recruited and sent back to American Zone. But after that he disappeared. I mean he did not answer them (KGB) after that. And the conclusion was that he evidently deceived the KGB and evidently told everything to the American Intelligence. At that time was such conclusion.

- 18 -

SECRET